

ROUND HILL GENERAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
NEWSLETTER
August 2012

WATER RATES

For the first time since 2001, at their regularly scheduled meeting of July 19, 2011, the RHGID Board of Trustees voted unanimously to increase water rates. In September of 2011, the base water rate increased by \$4.00 per month for all customer classes. The Board also agreed to increase the base water rate by \$4.00 per month during September of 2012 and another \$4.00 per month beginning in September of 2013. Please be advised that the District is currently planning to increase the base water rate by \$4.00 beginning with the September, 2012 billing. In addition to increasing rates, the Board also voted to decrease the amount of water in the base rate in 2011, 2012 and again in 2013. Therefore, beginning with the September 2012 billing, the amount of water allowed in the base rate will decrease from 17,000 gallons to 15,000 gallons.

2013 PAVING

R.O. Anderson Engineering was hired by the District in 2009 to create a Comprehensive Pavement Management Plan (CPMP) and subsequently to develop construction plans and specifications to pave McFaul Way and the Western intersection of Highway 50 and Elks Point Road. The CPMP calls for paving a portion of Round Hill every three years, thus ensuring that the District's roads are replaced on a 20 year cycle. Given R.O. Anderson's familiarity with the District and their successful completion of the 2010 paving project under budget and on schedule, it seemed appropriate to hire Anderson to design the next phase of paving within the District. Paving design will take place during the last half of 2012 in anticipation of paving Elks Point Rd. during the 2013 construction season.

BOARD ELECTIONS

While we may all be growing weary of the bombardment of political advertising we are subjected to from television and radio, remember that along with the National and State elections coming in November, we will also be voting in local elections. In Round Hill, there are two open Trustees' positions. Glen Smith, the current Board Chair will be seeking re-election as will Wesley Rice, the current Board Secretary. Challenging the two incumbents will be Round Hill resident Michael Pook. Please turn out to vote as your vote will help decide the direction for the District over the next four years.

NEW 500,000 GALLON STORAGE TANK

Work is approaching the end on the new 500,000 gallon water storage tank at the District's office facility. The work should be completed by the end of September, 2012.

UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE GRANT

Born out of the aftermath of the Angora fire, the creation of the Lake Tahoe Fire Protection Partnership enabled the District to secure a portion of \$11,000,000 in grant money from the U.S. Forest Service. The partnership consists of water utilities located within the basin. Each utility was allocated a percentage of the available funds based on the number of customers served by the utility. The grant proceeds needed to be used for projects that would improve the fire-fighting capabilities of the water purveyors that received the funds. RHGID received \$153,575 that we used to offset the costs of the construction of the new tank. The new tank qualified as it increased the District's overall water storage volumes. The District would like to thank the Forest Service for the grant and we would also like to thank South Tahoe Public Utilities District for administering the grant process.

HERBICIDE AND PESTICIDE USE IN LAKE TAHOE

The Lahontan Water Quality Board (LWQB) has proposed a basin plan amendment that includes guidelines for the use of pesticides and herbicides within their jurisdiction, which includes Lake Tahoe. The Tahoe Water Suppliers' Association (TWSA) is fundamentally opposed to the use of any chemical additives in Lake Tahoe. TWSA testified against the use of pesticides and herbicides in Lake Tahoe at both the local level and at the State Board level. Ultimately, the LWQB and the State of California approved the basin plan amendment with the stipulation that any permit applicant notify water utilities in the basin of their intent to apply herbicides or pesticides. The TWSA also voiced its opposition to this proposal to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the ultimate regulatory authority over this question. The District encourages all Round Hill residents that are interested, to participate in the approval process as it moves forward.

BOARD MEETINGS

The RHGID Board of Trustees meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. Meetings are usually held at the Fire Station at 193 Elks Point Road. Round Hill residents are always encouraged to attend to provide the Board and staff with your feedback.